

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 and 60-70 were pending. By this amendment, claims 1, 60, and 62 are amended, and claims 2, 15, and 61 are canceled. No new matter is entered.

Allowable subject matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 2, 15, 60, and 61 recite allowable subject matter.

Claim Objections and Rejections

Claims 1, 62, and 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as encompassing subject matter anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,797,076 to Watkin, or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as encompassing subject matter unpatentable over Watkin.

Claims 5-9, 11, 12, 14, 63, and 68-70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as encompassing subject matter unpatentable over Watkin.

Claims 1-14, 62, and 63-70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as encompassing subject matter unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,193,732 to Frantzen et al. in view Watkin.

Applicant has placed the application in condition for allowance by amending claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 2 and analogously amending claim 62.

Respectfully submitted,

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